

RIDDOR – The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013.

Synopsis

When an injury or a high risk event without injury occurs, you must assess it to determine if it is reportable under RIDDOR and keep appropriate records.

If you are working on your Society site or making something at home for your Society, then you are working as a volunteer for your club, so wherever you are is a workplace, and that is one of the reasons why club member insurances have to cover you when you are at home in your workshop.

RIDDOR applies to any location that is recognised as a workplace including clubhouses, railway sites, and home workshops.

Insurance requirements apply to all items and people insured.

Prudence requires all incidents to be processed even when not reported to an insurer.

Information.

The HSE publish information on RIDDOR at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/> , which you should use as your authoritative guidance on what to do. It includes a purchasable accident book and a number of guides both downloadable for free and printed chargeable documents about the relevant processes and your duties.

Wikipedia has general summary of the regulations at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reporting_of_Injuries,_Diseases_and_Dangerous_Occurrences_Regulations.

The full law is available on the government website [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013](#).

Once upon a time, most incidents were reportable under RIDDOR, but now there is a much reduced list of reportable incidents and occurrences.

Be aware that there are specific additional requirements for passenger carrying railways and because railways are a specialist area these are not listed in the general RIDDOR guidance that one finds on the web.

You need to review the terms of your insurance policy to comply with their requirements.

RIDDOR and Non-RIDDOR reporting and records.

In general the need to keep proper records and make timely reports applies equally to RIDDOR and to Insurance. However not all insurance reports need to be reported under RIDDOR.

In the following notes we consider the relevance of RIDDOR to model engineering and also the prudent steps you may wish to take when something goes wrong. We also consider this in the context of your overall policies and procedures, including insurance, risk reviews and general records.

Refer to the section on workplaces to determine if the location is not a workplace in the eyes of the law. If the location is not a workplace the law does not apply. It will however be prudent to at least keep records as indicated here in case your decision is challenged or because an injured party who did not advise an injury at the time, subsequently raises a claim.

Be aware that even if your incident is not RIDDOR reportable, any observer may report the matter to HSE and in turn they may require to see your records and reasoning for not reporting. It will generally be seen as positive if you rather than a third party are the first contact the HSE. If you are unsure whether RIDDOR applies, it probably safest to make an informal contact, perhaps by phone, noting specifically, where valid, that you believe the location was not a workplace and / or that the incident was not of sufficient import to be reportable. Telling the HSE about an event is not the same as reporting under RIDDOR, but will help you establish the need.

The HSE directs that "Only responsible persons including employers, the self-employed and people in control of work premises should submit reports under RIDDOR".

The simple criteria are - if there is an injury, did it occur in a workplace and is it significant enough to report or, if there was no injury, was the nature of the risk or the circumstance significant enough to report.

RW
06/08/2021